

ANA COBO ALONSO

AUGUST 27 (legislative day, AUGUST 1), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 715]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 715) for the relief of Ana Cobo Alonso, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to Ana Cobo Alonso. The bill provides for the payment of the required visa fee and head tax but no quota deduction is necessary inasmuch as the beneficiary of the bill is a native of Mexico and is therefore a nonquota immigrant.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 22-year-old native and citizen of Mexico who last entered the United States as a visitor on September 9, 1949, destined to Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, Calif. She is presently enrolled in the Immaculate Heart Novitiate Training School, Montecito, Calif., for the purpose of eventually becoming a nun in the Order of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Although the beneficiary of the bill was born in Mexico and would therefore be a nonquota immigrant, it is the information of the committee that she cannot procure the necessary documents in order to obtain a visa.

A letter dated August 1, 1951, to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case, reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL,
Washington, August 1, 1951.

Hon. PAT McCARRAN,
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

MY DEAR SENATOR: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (S. 715) for the relief of Ana Cobo Alonso, an alien.

The bill would provide that Ana Cobo Alonso shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of its enactment upon payment of the required visa fee and head tax.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that Miss Alonso is a native and citizen of Mexico, who was born in Batopilas, Chihuahua, Mexico, on September 10, 1928. She last arrived in the United States at the port of El Paso, Tex., on September 9, 1949, and was admitted as a temporary visitor until March 8, 1950, under section 3 (2) of the Immigration Act of 1924. At the time of her entry she was destined to Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, Calif. She was granted one extension of stay until September 8, 1950. Her request for a further extension of stay was denied. In her original application for a non-immigrant visa, the alien stated that her purpose in coming to the United States was to study for 6 months.

The alien is presently enrolled in the Immaculate Heart Novitiate Training School located at Montecito, Calif. She stated that she is supported entirely by the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, such support consisting of room, board, and tuition, and that she expects to continue to be supported by that organization in the future. She further stated that she desires to remain permanently in the United States, and that she has taken steps toward obtaining an ordinary Mexican passport in order that she can ultimately secure a permanent visa to the United States.

Since the alien is a native of Mexico she may be eligible for admission into the United States for permanent residence upon her application for the issuance of a nonquota immigration visa under section 4 (c) of the Immigration Act of 1924, if found admissible to the United States. She may go to Mexico or any other nearby country to which she can gain admission and there apply for a nonquota immigration visa with which to enter the United States for permanent residence. It does not appear from the record that she has applied for that form of relief.

Since Miss Alonso has not exhausted the administrative remedy available to her under the general immigration laws, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend passage of this legislation.

Yours sincerely,

PEYTON FORD,
Deputy Attorney General.

Sister M. Christiana of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary has submitted the following information in connection with the case:

IN RE: MISS ANA COBO ALONSO

1. Born in Batopilas, Chihuahua, Mexico, September 10, 1928.
Father, Spanish citizen.
Mother, Mexican citizen.
2. Came to the United States as student in September 1948, to study at Immaculate Heart College, Los Angeles, Calif.
3. Home for the summer.
4. Last entry on September 9, 1949, at El Paso, Tex., to resume study at Immaculate Heart College.
5. Having been accepted for membership in the religious order of the California Institute of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart, requested change from provisional passport to ordinary passport in the spring of 1950 in order to apply for resident visa. However, because of father's Spanish citizenship, had to apply for special Mexican nationality certificate before passport could be granted. Birth certificate required for this, and original having been burned in city hall fire, affidavit was obtained from officials there. This document not accepted by Mexico because it did not state father's citizenship. Therefore, no nationality certificate granted and no passport granted.

6. Granted several extensions orally, but last extension denied and given until March 23, 1951 to leave the United States.
7. Is now residing at Immaculate Heart Novitiate. Since she is a member of this religious order, her activities are confined to the Immaculate Heart Novitiate where she is studying. The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary provide for her living, medical, and other miscellaneous expenses.

In addition, Sister M. Eucharia, the mother general of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, has submitted the following affidavit in support of the bill:

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
County of Los Angeles:

Before me, the undersigned authority duly authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments, this day personally appeared Elizabeth Rose Harney, known in religion as Sister Mary Eucharia, a religious in the California Institute of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, who, after being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Superior General of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, whose motherhouse is located in Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, State of California; that this community engages in the performance of religious activities and in the work of education. Deponent further states that the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart conduct Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles and 35 secondary and elementary schools throughout the State of California.

Deponent says that the institute, because of the unusual demands on it since the tremendous increase of population in Southern California, following the inception of World War II, has pressing need of teachers, that the services of lay teachers, competent to carry on the spiritual as well as the temporal work of the members of the community are not available in sufficient numbers, that the services of Ana Cobo Alonso will for this reason be most essential.

That the acquisition of Ana Cobo Alonso was most fortunate in that she is an experienced office worker with a knowledge of the Spanish language and culture sufficient for high-school teaching; that the number of teachers trained to take care of the widespread demand for this language in southern California is not adequate to meet our demands; that, therefore, the services of Ana Cobo Alonso by reason of her background and training are particularly needed by the institute insofar as it is impossible to obtain all the services that she will render the community from any individual person or persons that could be employed.

Deponent says that the above-mentioned Ana Cobo Alonso has been known intimately by the members of the community to which she has become attached, which members can confidently guarantee that Ana Cobo Alonso will become a desirable, loyal, and intelligent citizen of the United States.

A graduate of Immaculate Heart College (one of the leading colleges for women in the United States) Ana Cobo Alonso has already become part and parcel of the community whose members are devoted to the work of education in said college and in high schools and elementary schools throughout the State of California. Her services will be particularly valuable because of her cultural Spanish background and liberal education.

SISTER M. EUCHARIA HARNEY,
Mother General, Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of March A. D. 1951.

[SEAL]

DAVID J. CASHIN,
Notary Public in and for said county and State.

My commission expires January 13, 1955.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 715) should be enacted.



